

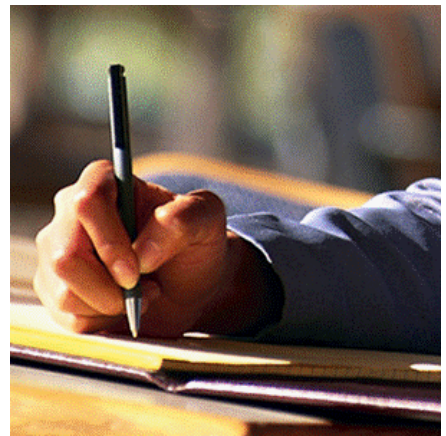
Publish Yourself! A Year in Review

Earlier this year we introduced the Publish Yourself! Program, which offers the opportunity for learners to write articles about their learning experiences and have them published in the Learning Connection Newsletter. We received fantastic articles and want to thank all the learners who submitted articles (and some more than one article!) during 2011:

Anna M.	Linda P.
Christi K.	Mateo L.
Daniel C.	Nyla H.
Kristin C.	Rosalba F.

This is an on-going opportunity, so we encourage learners to submit articles — just ask a staff member for a copy of the guidelines.

A companion resource is the Writer's Toolkit, which offers a flexible and fun approach to writing. We have a self-study program available that explains how to use the Toolkit. Ask for this at the help desk and you can decide if this approach to writing would be helpful. Toolkits are also available upon request at the help desk.



Important Year-End Dates



November 23, Wednesday—all Carlsbad Library locations close at 5:00 p.m.

November 24, Thursday & November 25, Friday—City Holiday, Learning Center and all Carlsbad Libraries are closed.

December 26, Monday—City Holiday, Learning Center and all Carlsbad Libraries are closed.

January 1, Sunday—all Carlsbad Library locations are closed.

January 2, Monday—City Holiday, Learning Center and all Carlsbad Libraries are closed.

Our regular hours are Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., and Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A Teacher Who Made the Difference in My Life

—By Linda P.

How can somebody that I never met before make such a difference in my life? It was Spring of 2005 when I decided to take a computer class at MiraCosta College. I had never taken any classes in the United States.

I took several English classes in my country of Mexico. I moved to the United States in 2002. At that time I thought my English was poor. I had trouble maintaining a conversation. My husband didn't want me to go to school. He used to verbally abuse me telling me that I was born brainless, dumb and stupid. He said, "Don't waste your time and money. You're never going to pass a class, but if you want to flunk and embarrass yourself go ahead." My self-esteem and confidence were low, but I took the risk.

I was excited my first day of class. I didn't know what to expect, but to my surprise the teacher looked very nice. His name was Mike. He was a retired Army officer. He was short, thin, had blonde hair and beautiful blue eyes. He welcomed the class with a big smile.

Days passed by and I felt out of place. My classmates were more advanced than I was. I was very uncomfortable, my insecurity increased. I was ready to give up. My teacher knew that something was bothering me. He asked me, "What's wrong Linda?" I said, "I don't feel good in this class. All my classmates are too fast and smart except me. I should go home and forget about school. My husband is right, I am not smart." He looked directly into my eyes and

said, "I don't know who told you that you are not smart. You are slow but you are very smart. Being slow is normal because English is your second language. I am so proud of people like you."

At that moment I felt very special. I really liked the way my teacher talked to me. After I passed his computer class my self-esteem rose. I gained confidence and I decided to continue with my education. He probably will never know how he changed me, but I will be thankful for him the rest of my life. Here I am now six years later with my self-esteem and my confidence restored. I will never let anybody treat me with disrespect. I will remember Mike as a great teacher and as part of the story of my life.

Alejandrina R. – garden flowers

Elmer R. – magazines

Judy A. – pound cake

Betty G. – flowers

Miguel P. – kiwis

Meli B. – pastries

Hermond J. – magazine

Theresa B. – tea

Claudia J. – assortment of chips

Karen B. – body wash samples

Bev L. – magazine

Floyd and Nyla H. – world atlas, book about 9/11, World Book series, Trivia game, lined paper

Harriet N. – chocolates, brownies

Phylcia C. – tea and sweetener

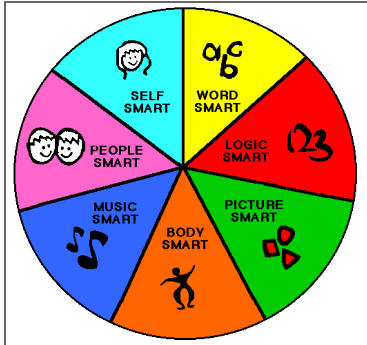
Anthony R. – UpWords game

Beth M. – flowers



Multiple Intelligences

Here's the address of a website that offers a fun assessment for pairs to use together to determine multiple intelligences.



<http://literacyworks.org/mi/assessment/index.html>

"I love this! I really like that the results gave concrete examples of how to apply your strengths to learning."

The Many Ways to Use E-mail

—By Kristin C.

I remember when I was little writing letters, licking the envelopes, and also putting the stamps on them, and most of all the walk down the driveway. Nowadays, people just send e-mails that are personal letters or business letters to family, friends, and other people. E-mail is a system for sending messages from one individual to another via telecommunication links between computers or terminals.

First, many students nowadays know to e-mail or let their teachers know if anything happens or anything changes that can affect class days. For example, if students can't attend classes for some reason, they should know to e-mail or let their teacher know so they can find out what they are going to do that day in class. Also, if

students fall behind or are having trouble with class work or homework, they should e-mail their teachers to let them know that they would like to set up meetings to catch up or get more time.

Second, some people who move away from their parents, friends, and hometowns sometimes don't have a telephone, cell phone or computer to keep in touch. Some family and friends that can't afford telephones, cell phones, or even computers try to keep in touch in other ways like e-mails by using a friend's computer, or going to the public library. Also, to help a lot of family members and friends save money on envelopes, plus stamps, they can send family members and friends e-mails with personal letters, pictures, videos, website information, funny jokes, and more.

Third, lots of businesses have e-mail addresses so customers can give feedback about how their businesses run, voice concerns, and discuss employees. Most businesses like it when you e-mail them letting them know how their store is running or if you have any concerns or questions about how they operate the store. Also, some people love to e-mail the business to let the boss know how good an employee is working or how much they were helpful, or to let them know how rude or unhelpful the employee was.

Although some people don't communicate through telephone, cell phones or in person, it doesn't mean there is no other way to communicate. An e-mail is still like communicating the same way by getting your point across, plus keeping in touch with family, friends, and everyone else.

Write a Letter to Your Favorite Author

Books make a big impact on our lives. They provide us with new information, they can make us laugh or cry, and sometimes they change our lives.

In a special program for adult learners sponsored by The Southern California Library Literacy Network, you can write a letter to an author of a book and tell them how the book has influenced your life. The book can



be one you've read or it can be a book on CD you have listened to.

This is a unique opportunity for tutors and learners to work together in choosing a book, reading for pleasure and comprehension, and writing a letter.

If you are interested, stop by the help desk and ask for a packet of information. The last date to submit your letter is Friday, December 16, 2011.

My Seminar on the Sacramento River —By Nyla H.

The Voice of Adult Learners United to Educate (VALUE) conference was in Sacramento on the Delta King, a riverboat, in the old town of Sacramento. The conference welcomed adult learners as well as supporters of adult learners. It offered reading and writing workshops on how to have better tools for yourself and others.

The people there were supporters of California State Libraries, VALUE, and adult learners. We met with people from all over the U.S.A. They were from all walks of life. Participants were all ages with their own stories to tell.

Let me share with you just one of the many workshops: The Power of Visualizing. "If you can see it, you can be it! If you can see it, you can learn it!" The ability to visualize helps you to be successful with reading and writing using different, important tools. The tools that we think were very handy included keeping your own notebook of your writings, having a photo book for your own work, and my favorite is, take a personal telephone/address book and make it your own word lists book.

I feel that the conference was a great opportunity to go to and be a part of the voice of adult learners to educate. The main thing I learned is we want the same things that anyone else does: acceptance, respect, loyalty, support, and to be safe.

Scholarship Winners!

Carlsbad learners Carmen C., Joyce F., and Nyla H. received scholarships to attend the Voice of Adult Learners United to Educate (VALUE) conference October 9-11 in Sacramento. Read Nyla's article to learn more about the conference.